TRANSPOSON INSERTION FOLLOWED BY SEQUENCING METHOD TO STUDY INTERACTIONS BETWEEN GENES

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Why is it important to study interactions between genes?

Usually multiple genes contribute to one specific phenotype (trait)

Example: You want to construct a yeast strain that grows fast in medium with low pH



Background strain

Strain with improved characteristics

Example: You want to construct a yeast train that grows fast in medium with low pH



How can we study interactions between mutations?

Choosing experimental approach

Requirements:

- Simple and reproducible method to introduce mutations
- A method to distinguish mutations and track their frequencies over time
- Reasonable timeline

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Alternative approaches:

- Sampling from the wild
- Mutagenesis (chemical, UV exposure, etc.)
- Use of yeast deletion collections

Transposon mutagenesis followed by sequencing (TnSeq) method

I. Transposon insertion



2. Generation of mutant library



Yeast or bacterial strain

Transposon library

Mutant library



4. Tracking barcode frequency trajectories



5. Estimating fitness effects of mutations



LET'S PRACTICE!

Dataset description

Model organism:

2 Saccharomyces cerevisiae strains that differ by 5 mutations



Dataset description

Mutations tested:

~1000 mutations with different genomic location

Dataset description

Environment:

Synthetic complete medium with low pH (3.0)



Questions we want to answer

Do some of the mutations have different fitness effect?

If yes, how different this effect can be?

Data analysis workflow



What information do fastq files contain?

@NS500672:54:HL775BGXX:1:11101:22716:1042 1:N:0:CCCCGG CCGCCNATGCCCATGCCACAGTTGTTGAGCTTGAGTTCCTGCAGGGTGAAGCAGGCTGAGCTCTTGA GCAGGGCCTCGAA +

First line is the information about the location of the read and specific sequencing machine used:

@<instrument>:<run number>:<flowcell ID>:<lane>:<tile>:<x-pos>:<y-pos>
<read>:<is filtered>:<control number>:<index sequence>

Second line is the nucleotide sequence called

Third line is "+" and can optionally be followed by a repeat of the filename in line I

Fourth line contains the quality score as determined by the sequencer

How can we check the quality of sequencing data?

Fastq File – Phred Quality Score

 $Q = -10 Log_{10} P$

Quality scores report the probability that the base call is incorrect

Phred quality scores are logarithmically linked to error probabilities				
Phred Quality Score	Probability of incorrect base call	Base call accuracy		
10	1 in 10	90%		
20	1 in 100	99%		
30	1 in 1000	99.9%		
40	1 in 10,000	99.99%		
50	1 in 100,000	99.999%		
60	1 in 1,000,000	99.9999%		

Field standard is to accept bases with quality >20

Measure	Value	
Filename	<pre>good_sequence_short.txt</pre>	
File type	Conventional base calls	
Encoding	Illumina 1.5	
Total Sequences	250000	
Sequences flagged as poor quality	0	
Sequence length	40	
*GC	45	



http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc/











Sequence	Count	PValue	Obs/Exp Max	Max Obs/Exp Position
ACCGAAC	35	1.0615131E-6	34.067673	33
ACCGGAC	30	1.4503141E-5	34.06767	33
ACCGGAA	55	3.092282E-11	34.06767	33
GACCGGT	20	0.0027499169	34.06767	32
GACCGGA	95	0.0	34.06767	32

Barcode extraction procedure and mapping



Can we use barcode raw counts for the analysis?

LETS CODE!

Please fill out the assessment below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/IFAIpQLScenZBfkADH6dgbvTYfoNi5LbvGB4I 7AgdlhGr3ey_IhSKQYQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Thank you!